



New Haven Democracy Fund

"To ensure that all the citizens of New Haven have a fair and meaningful opportunity to participate in the election of mayor."
New Haven Code of General Ordinances, Chapter 2, Article XI, §2-821 • Established in 2007 • democracyfund@newhavenct.net



DEMOCRACY FUND BOARD MEETING

6:15 Wednesday March 20, 2019

New Haven City Hall – 165 Church Street

Second Floor, Mayor's Meeting Room #2

New Haven Democracy Fund Board:

Sergio Rodriguez, Chair

Jack Paulishen

James O'Connell

William Wynn

(Three Seats Vacant)

Democracy Fund Administrator: Alyson Heimer

Public: Walter Morton, Aaron Goode

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order & Attendance. 6:26pm.

2. Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting, February 20, 2019. O'Connell moved to accept the minutes. Unanimously approved.

3. James O'Connell report on the Moderator Training. O'Connell attending the hearing on the 28th for the New Haven Registrar of Voters and Election Day Registration (EDR). The moderator training was held on March 13th by the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC). It consisted of a review of how to run a polling location from setting up the machines to sending the results downtown. O'Connell also attended the February 28th meeting of the Board of Alders to discuss the Registrar of Voters office. He noted the mood of the public at the meeting was passionate concern.

4. Administrator's Report

A) Candidate update - No one has filed a request for grant approval.

B) Legislative Update - referendum on the ballot in November for Baltimore County will mirror the success of Baltimore City's initiative led by Kristofer Burnett, the city council member who spoke on the public campaign financing panel we hosted back in September in Washington D.C.

C) Election finance oversight - Wendy Hamilton filed paperwork saying she would only spend a maximum of \$1000 total between now and November, this means she does not have to file an April filing. She is currently collection signatures for the general election.

5. Report from the Chair

- A) City Clerk's Office responses - pilot program for SEEC e-Filing was discontinued, and so New Haven was unable to participate in 2019. CT's Common Cause has added this item to their legislative priorities list

Wynn made a motion to accept the reports from the Chair and Administrator. Unanimously approved.

6. Public Comment

Aaron Goode spoke about the State Level legislation up this session. Wynn inquired further on the legislation re-enfranchising parolees. Unlock the Vote is the activist group working on this issue. Goode is meeting at Aldermanic Affairs to become a board member on March 25 There will be a local referendum on the reauthorization of the city and town development act on the November ballot.

7. New Business

Goode will present on the upcoming referendums at the next meeting on April, Administrator Heimer will promote the presentation to the community.

Walter Morton was in attendance representing the Elicker campaign. He thanked the Board for its efforts but had nothing to report.

Jack Paulishen had a great write up about his work as an educator at Hillhouse High School in the New Haven Independent. His work on the Board is appreciated and his passion for public service is wonderful to experience.

O'Connell made a motion to adjourn. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned 6:56pm.